

NOTES AND DESCRIPTIONS OF SOME NEW AND
OLD GENERA AND SPECIES OF NORTH
AMERICAN OEMINI AND METHIINI

(Coleoptera Cerambycidae)

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The Oemini and Methiini are two apparently related tribes of the Cerambycinae. The species are nearly all rare in collections, and scarcity of material has resulted in many mistakes and considerable confusion in the literature. A monographic study of these tribes is impossible until a greater series of individuals can be examined and until a more complete knowledge of their biology can be obtained. The following paper is offered merely to place certain new species and to correct a few of the more obvious errors that have come to the attention of the writer. Appreciation is expressed to Dr. E. C. Van Dyke and Mr. E. P. Van Duzee for permission to describe certain species in the collection of the California Academy of Sciences and for helpful advice concerning some of the more perplexing problems encountered in the preparation of this paper.

OEMINI

The Oemini constitute the first of a series of closely related groups which made up the Cerambycini of LeConte and Horn. The latter tribe has been broken up to form the Achrysonini, Cerambycini, Hesperophanini, Eburiini, Elaphidionini, and a number of others, to which Aurivillius has recently added the Methiini. In all of these tribes, the eyes are large, coarsely granulated, emarginate (rarely divided), the antennae long with second segment small, and anterior coxal cavities angulated at the sides. The Oemini are separated from their relatives by the more or less corneous ligula. The species are dominantly Ethiopian but are well represented in tropical America. A few genera occur in Malasia as well as in the Nearctic fauna.

Among our genera, *Haplidus* is apparently the most primitive, and although it exhibits a facies peculiar to itself, it has few outstanding characters, and is very difficult to define.

Vandykea is one of the most highly specialized genera with many striking characters, showing certain affinities with *Styloxus* and the Methiini. Our genera may be separated as follows:

TABLE OF THE NORTH AMERICAN GENERA OF THE OEMINI

- | | |
|--|-----------------------|
| 1. Eyes deeply emarginate, embracing base of antennæ; front coxæ prominent | 2 |
| Eyes slightly emarginate, scarcely embracing base of antennæ: front coxæ moderately prominent..... | <i>Haplidus</i> |
| 2. Prosternum narrow | 3 |
| Prosternum broad | 5 |
| 3. Prothorax rounded at sides..... | 4 |
| Prothorax tuberculate at sides..... | 6 |
| 4. Prothorax constricted at base; palpi very slightly dilated; prosternal process short | <i>Oeme</i> |
| Prothorax lobed at base; palpi broadly dilated; prosternal process long | <i>Malacopterus</i> |
| 5. Antennal segments 3-6 armed with a terminal spine, body uniformly pubescent; elytral apices spinose..... | <i>Eucrossus</i> |
| Antennal segments 3-6 unarmed; body with transverse bands of yellow pubescence; elytral apices emarginate..... | <i>Dryobius</i> |
| 6. Prothorax subquadrate; elytra distinctly costate; front coxæ separated by prosternal process..... | <i>Eudistenia</i> |
| Prothorax elongate, with a large obtuse lateral tubercle; elytra without costæ; front coxæ contiguous behind.... | <i>Vandykea</i> n. g. |

Genus HAPLIDUS LeConte

When LeConte originally defined this genus, he separated it from the other Oemini by the short, slender, equal palpi, and the less deeply emarginate eyes. The addition of two new species in which the palpi are very unequal in length and the last segment broadly dilated, necessitates an enlargement of the scope of the genus, and increases the difficulty of separating it from the other genera. However, I can find no constant characters to add to those given by LeConte, but it is my opinion that *Haplidus* is a distinct unit and should remain as such in our classification.

KEY TO THE SPECIES OF HAPLIDUS

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| 1. Palpi slender, subequal in length, last segment cylindrical; prothorax more or less octagonal, sides parallel at middle. 9-15 mm. New Mexico to California..... | <i>testaceus</i> Lec |
| Palpi very unequal in length, last segment broadly dilated; prothorax distinctly angulate, widest at middle..... | 2 |

2. Head wider than prothorax; fourth segment of antennæ one-third shorter than third. 8 mm. Southern Arizona.....
*palpalis* n. sp.
 Head narrower than prothorax, fourth segment of antennæ distinctly longer than third. 6-12 mm. California.....
*antennatus* n. sp.

HAPLIDUS TESTACEUS Lec¹

This species is slightly larger than either of the following and ranges throughout the Great Basin area from New Mexico to California. The adults are frequently taken at light. The antennæ are longer than the body in the male, about as long as the body in the female, and the fifth ventral of the latter is rounded, that of the male emarginate. There is a small median smooth spot on the prothorax of the female which is replaced by a shining longitudinal line in the male.

In the series of individuals before me, the width of the head in proportion to the prothorax appears to be constant, but there is considerable variation in the length of the head. In certain specimens from Jemez Springs, New Mexico, the length of the head in the female varies from one-half as long as broad to as long as broad. This character is used by Colonel Casey to separate his *H. breviceps* (type locality Fort Wingate, New Mexico) from *H. testaceus*. Since the remaining characters mentioned by Casey are typically those of the latter species, I have considered *breviceps* as a variant of *H. testaceus*.

Haplidus palpalis Linsley, n. sp.

Elongate, slender, blackish-piceous and shining; pubescence short, sparse, subdecumbent, interspersed with a few longer scattered flying hairs. Head distinctly wider than prothorax; front short, vertical, vertex medianly sulcate; eyes coarsely granulated, emarginate, rather widely separated; antennæ slender, longer than the body (♂), scape moderately stout, second segment small, about as long as broad, third slightly more than four times as long as second, fourth one-fifth shorter than third, fifth two-thirds longer than fourth, following segments diminishing gradually in length toward apex (with exception of twelfth, which is suddenly shortened, being about two-thirds as long as eleventh). Prothorax slightly longer than broad, sides angulated; punctures dense and variolate, with the exception of a median polished line (♂). Elytra a little wider than prothorax, slightly more than three times as long as broad, apices rotundate

¹ LeConte, Smiths. Misc. Coll., 264, 1873, p. 175; LeConte and Horn, Class. Col. 1883, p. 284.

truncate. Beneath, punctures fine, sparse; ventral segments subglabrous. Length 8 mm.; breadth 1.75 mm.

Type, male, (No. 3604 Mus. Calif. Acad. Sci.) taken by the writer in Carr Canyon, Huachuca Mountains, Arizona, July 6, 1930, at light.

The type, a unique, has twelve-segmented antennæ, but this condition is probably abnormal. The antennal proportions are, exclusive of the twelfth segment, as in *H. testaceus*, but the shape and proportions of the prothorax, puncturation, and the very unequal, broadly dilated palpi will readily separate it from that species.

Haplidus antennatus Linsley, n. sp.

Elongate, subparallel, somewhat depressed, dark brownish-testaceous; pubescence subdecumbent, with scattered longer flying hairs; puncturation distinctly variolate. Head slightly narrower than prothorax, coarsely, densely punctured; front short, vertical, vertex medianly sulcate, eyes coarsely granulated, emarginate, rather widely separated; palpi very unequal in length, last segment broadly dilated; antennæ slender, longer than body (♂), shorter than body (♀), scape stout, as long as second and third segments together, second segment small, about as long as broad, third about three times as long as second, fourth one-third longer than third, fifth one-third longer than fourth, following segments diminishing gradually in length toward apex. Prothorax as long as broad, sides distinctly angulated, widest at middle, coarsely, variolately punctured. Elytra slightly broader than prothorax, about three times as long as broad, apices rotundate-truncate. Beneath, sparsely, finely punctured, abdomen clothed with fine, decumbent hairs. Length 10 mm.; breadth 2 mm.

Holotype, male, (No. 3605 Mus. Calif. Acad. Sci.) taken by the writer at Carnelian Bay, Lake Tahoe, California, July 20, 1931; allotype, female, (No. 3606 Mus. Calif. Acad. Sci.) from Santa Ana Canyon, Orange County, California, July 21, 1930, K. Sloop collector; paratypes: Trinity County, California, October 10, 1918, in collection of E. R. Leach; Lake Tahoe, California, July 18-22, 1930, in the collection of the writer.

In this species the proportions of the antennal segments are quite different from either *H. palpalis* or *H. testaceus*, and this character, in addition to the others given in the key, will easily separate it. The Lake Tahoe specimens were taken on *Pinus ponderosa* Dougl. and it is quite probable that all three species breed in coniferous trees.

Genus OEME Newman ²

The deep basal constriction of the prothorax will separate this genus from the other North American genera of the tribe. Most of the species are confined to the western or southern United States and three or four species are found in tropical America.

Oeme rotundicollis Linsley, n. sp.

Elongate, subparallel, yellowish-testaceous, clothed with a dense, fine, decumbent pile, interspersed with coarser more erect setæ and scattered flying hairs. Head slightly wider than prothorax, moderately coarsely, densely punctured; front short, vertical, vertex deeply longitudinally sulcate; eyes large, coarsely granulated, deeply emarginate; antennæ slender, about as long as the body (♀), annulate, scape moderately stout, second segment small, third nearly twice as long as scape, fourth two-thirds as long as third, following segments diminishing gradually in length toward apex. Prothorax one-third wider than long, moderately constricted at base, sides evenly rounded, widest at middle, apex slightly wider than base, disk moderately densely punctured with the exception of a median polished area (♀). Elytra three and one-half times as long as broad, distinctly wider than prothorax, feebly tricostate, finely closely punctured, suture margined with a thin dark line from base to apex, apices rotundate-truncate. Beneath, finely, closely punctured, shining. Length 14 mm.; breadth 3.5 mm.

Type, female, (No. 3607 Mus. Calif. Acad. Sci.) and one paratype, also a female, from Glen Ranch, Alpine, Texas, O. C. Poling collector (Van Dyke Collection).

This is the only species known to me in which the prothorax, anterior to the basal constriction, is evenly rounded at the sides. In most of the species the widest point is behind the middle, with the sides somewhat straight or gradually narrowed anteriorly. From *O. hirsuta* Van Dyke, the species with which *rotundicollis* might most easily be confused, it differs in the wider head, more slender antennæ, and dark sutural margin of the elytra. The dense pilosity, long slender antennal scape, and wide head will separate it from *O. rigida* Say. The round prothorax gives *rotundicollis* a very characteristic appearance.

Many writers have used the degree of development of the tubercles along the inner side of the third, fourth, and fifth antennal segments as a basis for the separation of species in

² Newman, Entomologist I, 1840, p. 8; Lacordaire, Gen. Col. VIII, 1869, p. 222; LeConte and Horn, Class. Coleoptera, 1883, p. 284.

the genus. This character is not only variable, but is to a great extent sexual. The tubercles are usually more highly developed in the male, and are often greatly reduced in size or entirely missing in the female.

Genus MALACOPTERUS Serv.³

Our only species, *M. tenellus* (Fab.), ranges from Central America to the southwestern United States. Two other species are known, both from Brazil.

Genus EUCROSSUS LeConte⁴

This genus is founded on *E. villicornis* Lec., an extremely variable species distributed throughout the Southwest. As mentioned by LeConte, there is little uniformity in the lateral prothoracic spine, and it may or may not be present. The males are, as a rule, lighter colored (more or less testaceous), with larger mandibles, and long, stout, very hairy antennæ. The female varies in color from dark testaceous to piceous. The puncturation of the prothorax may be uniform throughout or very uneven, in either sex. *Eucrossus phœnicis* Csy. appears from the description to be one of the dark females of *E. villicornis* Lec. In California, the host plant of *villicornis* is *Pinus sabiana* Dougl.

Genus DRYOBIUS LeConte⁵

LeConte and Horn in their Classification of the Coleoptera associate this genus with *Eucrossus*, accrediting *D. sexfasciatus* (Say)¹ with spinose antennæ. In the six specimens before me from Kentucky (Van Dyke Collection) and Cincinnati, Ohio (Blaisdell Collection), the antennæ are entirely unarmed.

Genus EUDISTENIA Fall⁶

This interesting genus is based upon *E. costipennis* Fall (Fig. 4), and is easily distinguished by the characters given in the key. *Eudistenia costipennis* is a rather rare species found in central and southern California. Fall's original specimens were beaten from oak, but I have two examples from Yosemite Valley which were taken on *Pinus ponderosa* Dougl.

³ Serville, Soc. Ent. France, II, 1833, p. 565; LeConte and Horn, Class. Col. 1883, p. 284.

⁴ LeConte, Smiths. Misc. Coll. XI, 1873, p. 134; LeConte and Horn, p. 284.

⁵ LeConte, Journ. Acad. N. S. Phil., II, 1850, p. 23; LeConte and Horn, p. 284.

⁶ Fall, H. C. Journ. N. Y. Ent. Soc. XV, 1907, p. 82.

Genus **Vandykea** Linsley, new genus

Elongate, subcylindrical. Head distinctly narrower than prothorax; front short, genæ small, acute, vertex deeply grooved; palpi slightly unequal in length, terminal segment somewhat dilated; eyes coarsely granulated, deeply emarginate, widely separated above and below; antennæ longer than the body, moderately slender, sparsely hairy beneath; longer than broad, third, fourth, and fifth segments subequal, tuberculate beneath, remaining segments diminishing in length toward apex. Prothorax elongate, with well developed lateral tubercles. Elytral apices subtruncate. Scutellum obtusely triangular. Anterior and middle coxæ rounded, strongly angulated externally, open and contiguous behind; prosternal process very narrow, only partially separating the coxæ; metasternal episterna narrow, slightly wider anteriorly. Legs moderate, not clavate; tibial spurs short; tarsi finely pubescent beneath, first segment as long as remaining three.

Genotype, *Vandykea tuberculata* n. sp.

This genus is founded on a moderate sized species from California which shows relationship with *Styloxus* (*Idæmea*) in the Methiini. The ligula is apparently corneous, but this could not be determined without dissection, an operation that would have endangered the unique type. The other characters are, however, essentially those of the Oemini.

I take great pleasure in dedicating this genus to Dr. Edwin C. Van Dyke, whose generous and patient help, in addition to the high character of his entomological contributions, has been a continual inspiration to me.

Vandykea tuberculata Linsley, n. sp.

(Page 119, fig. 5)

Piceous, upper surface densely, rugosely punctured, sparsely clothed with coarse, pale, erect and semi-erect hairs. Head medianly sulcate at apex; front short; antennæ twice as long as body (♂), rather sparsely clothed with coarse, pale hairs, more numerous on inner surface. Prothorax slightly longer than broad, with a deep subapical constriction and a well developed lateral tubercle; base slightly narrower than apex; entire surface coarsely punctured with the exception of a narrow median longitudinal polished line on basal half (♂). Elytra as wide as prothorax, about three and one-half times as long as broad; pubescence sparse, short, decumbent; costæ not evident. Beneath, sparsely clothed with coarse, pale hairs. Length 13.5 mm.; breadth 2.5 mm.

Holotype, male, (No. 3608, Mus. Calif. Acad. Sci.), a unique, taken in Pope Valley, Napa County, California, May 8,

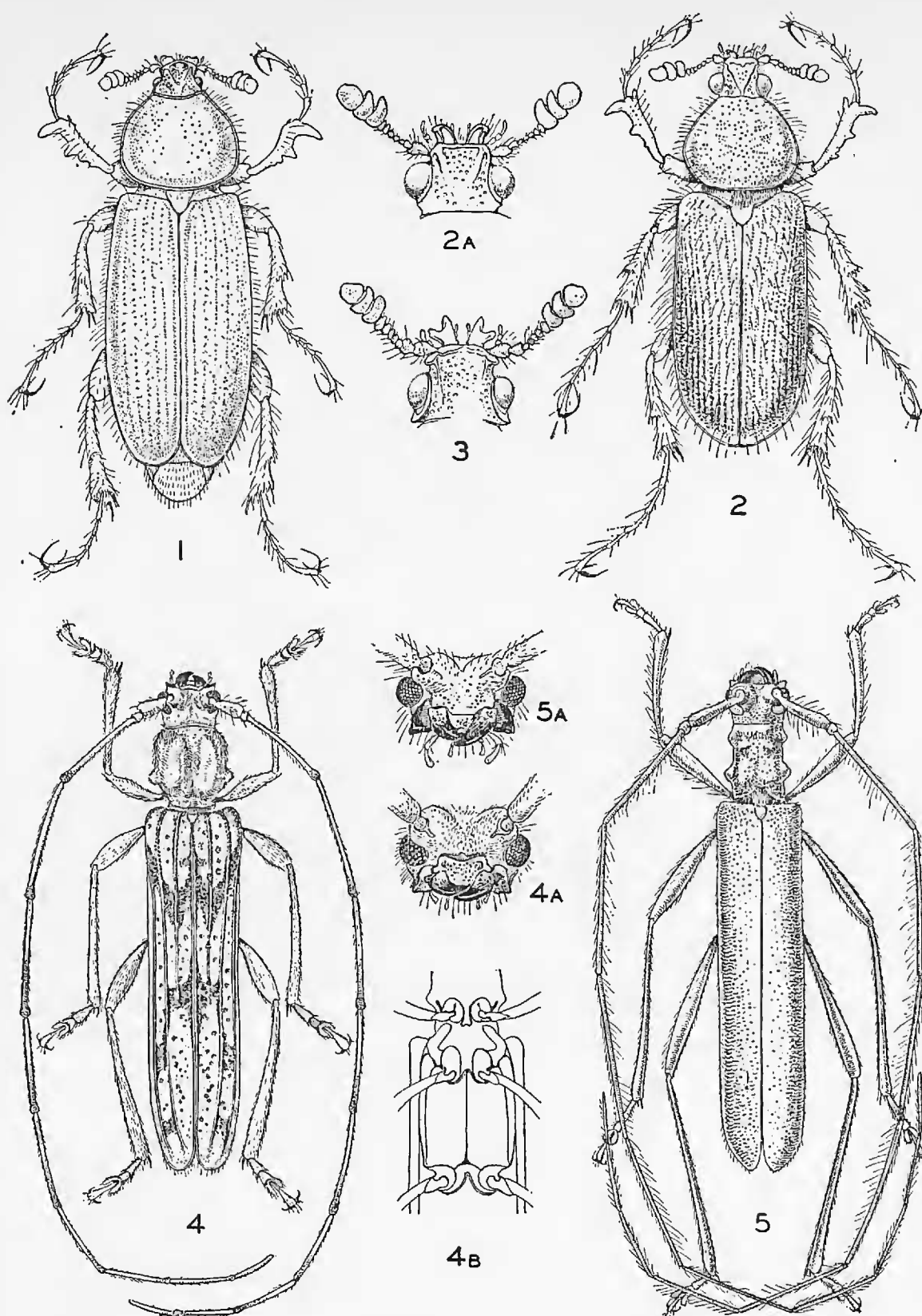


Fig. 1, 2. *Diphyllostoma nigricollis* Fall; fig. 3, *Diphyllostoma fimbriata* Fall; fig. 4, *Eudistemia costipennis* Fall; fig. 5, *Vandykea tuberculata* Linsl.

1930, by Dr. E. C. Van Dyke. The specimen was beaten from *Cupressus sargentii* Jepson.

METHIINI

The Methiini have always been a more or less puzzling group to the systematist, and their position in relation to the other groups of the Cerambycidae has been many times in dispute. J. Thomson,⁷ basing his opinion on *Methia pusilla* Newman, placed them in the Lamiinae (*Lamiites*), noting, however, a similarity to *Obrium*. Lacordaire⁸ also placed them in the Lamiinae, but pointed out a resemblance to *Molorchus*. LeConte and Horn,⁹ with more material before them, group them as the last tribe of the Lamiinae (*Lamiidae*), stating that they were the lowest organized of the Lamiinae, "undifferentiated forms, which exhibit strong relationships with *Oeme* and its allies among the Cerambycidae." Finally, Aurivillius¹⁰ definitely associated them with *Oemini* (as Tribe X of the Cerambycinae). This position is a good one and is justified by structural characters as well as by the habits of the group.

The various genera of the Methiini have also been subject to confusion. Newman,¹¹ in his original description of *Methia pusilla*, stated that the second antennal segment was obsolete. In all of the species since described and referred to this genus, the second segment, although very small, is clearly visible. Schaeffer¹² states that "the type species of this genus, *pusilla*, is said to have the second joint obsolete, but in a specimen in Mr. Beyer's collection, the second joint, although exceedingly small, is visible with a strong lens."

KEY TO GENERA OF THE METHIINI

1. Eyes divided, moderately granulated; second antennal segment obsolete *Tessaropa*
 Eyes deeply emarginate but undivided, coarsely granulated;
 second antennal segment small but visible..... 2
2. Thorax as broad or broader than long, sides more or less arcuate; femora not clavate..... *Methia*
 Thorax distinctly longer than broad; sides parallel or subangulate; femora clavate *Styloxus*

⁷ Thomson, J. Essai Class. Famille des Cerambycides, 1860, p. 364.

⁸ Lacordaire, I. T. Gen. Coleoptera, 1869, IX, p. 466.

⁹ LeConte and Horn, Classification of the Coleoptera, 1883, p. 333.

¹⁰ Aurivillius. Chr. Cerambycinae, Junk Coleopt. Cat. 39, 1912, p. 38.

¹¹ Newman, E. Entomologist I, 1842, p. 418.

¹² Schaeffer, C. Bull. Brook. Inst., I, 1908, p. 352.

Genus METHIA Newman

Until recently this genus was considered endemic to North America, but the discovery of two species in South America¹³ has considerably extended its range. The species are nearly all small, delicate insects, with greatly abbreviated elytra and long, slender antennæ. The following is apparently undescribed:

Methia fragilis Linsley, n. sp.

Elongate, subparallel, piceous, elytra marked with large, irregular, indistinct pale areas, more noticeable toward apex; pubescence fine, moderately dense, subdecumbent, interspersed with longer flying hairs. Head large, coarsely punctured, one-sixth wider than prothorax; eyes very large, coarsely granulated, deeply emarginate, nearly contiguous above and below; antennæ twice as long as body (♂), scape distinctly longer than head, second segment small, about half as long as broad, third about twice as long as first and second together, fourth and following segments subequal, diminishing only slightly in length toward apex. Prothorax slightly broader than long, sides arcuate, base constricted, puncturation slightly umbilicate. Scutellum longer than broad, deeply sulcate. Elytra three times as long as broad, dull, pubescence fine, obscuring puncturation, apices rounded. Beneath, body sparsely pubescent with long pale hairs. Length 7 mm.; breadth 1.75 mm.

Holotype, male (No. 3609, Mus. Calif. Acad. Sci.), from Santa Ana Canyon, Orange County, California, May 30, K. Sloop Collector, and one paratype, male, from Paraiso Springs, Calif., August 25, 1924, in the L. S. Slevin Collection, California Academy of Sciences.

This is a small slender species related to *M. mormona* Linell. It is, however, smaller and more delicate than *mormona* with a different style of puncturation, and more narrowly separated eyes (this last character is of use only when comparing members of the male sex). The elytra, in *M. mormona* are shining and sub-glabrous, with the puncturation well defined at the base. In *M. fragilis*, the elytra are dull, the pale markings indistinct, and the pubescence fine, obscuring the puncturation. It is much more slender than *M. æstiva* Fall, and exhibits a different type of coloration.

¹³ *M. argentina* Bruch, Rev. Museo La Plata, 24, 1919, p. 20 (Fig.).
M. fischeri Melzer, Rev. Museo Paulista, 13, 1923, p. 531 (Fig.).

Genus *STYLOXUS* LeConte

After a careful study of the literature and material at hand, I am unable to find any characters to warrant the continued separation of *Idæmea* Horn and *Styloxus* Lec. and I propose that the two be united. Most of the characters mentioned by Horn¹⁴ lose their importance when viewed in the light of added species and greater series. When Horn described *Idæmea*, *Styloxus* was known by a single male specimen, and although Horn states that his specimen of *I. fulleri* was a male, I am inclined to believe from his description that it was a female (widely separated eyes and short antennæ are typically female characters in the Methiini), and that many of the characters by which he separated the genus were sexual characters. Since Horn's time, three more species have been added to *Idæmea*. Two of these, *I. californica* and *I. texana* are congeneric with *I. fulleri*. The third species, *I. bicolor* (*Styloxus ruficeps* Van Dyke), might be placed equally well in either genus. The synonymy of *Styloxus* is as follows:

Styloxus Lec*Idæmea* Horn*Malthophia* Csy.*lucanus* Lec*bicolor* (Champ and Knull)*ruficeps* Van Dyke*californicus* (Fall)*oculatus* (Csy.)¹⁵*fulleri* (Horn)*texanus* (Schffr.)¹⁶

EXPLANATION OF PLATE

1. *Diphyllostoma nigricollis* Fall, female.
2. *Diphyllostoma nigricollis* Fall, male.
- 2a. *Same*, dorsal view of head.
3. *Diphyllostoma fimbriata* (Fall), head of male.
4. *Eudistenia costipennis* Fall, male.
- 4a. *Same*, front view of head.
- 4b. *Same*, ventral view of thoracic region.
5. *Vandykea tuberculata* Linsley, male.
- 5a. *Same*, front view of head.

¹⁴ Horn, G. H. Trans. Am. Ent. Soc., VIII, 1880, p. 138.

¹⁵ Van Dyke, E. C. Pan-Pacific Ent., III, 1927, p. 101.

¹⁶ *S. texanus* may eventually prove to be the male of *S. fulleri* (Horn).